

PROJECT EXILE PRESS RELEASE

July 24, 2001

RE: UNITED STATES v. LERONE NESMITH

United States Attorney Kathleen M. Mehlretter announces today that LERONE NESMITH, of Rochester, New York, was sentenced by the Honorable Michael A. Telesca, United States District Judge, to a 63-month term of incarceration to be followed by three years of supervised released. On May 8, 2001, Nesmith was found guilty after a jury trial to being a felon in possession of two firearms and ammunition, and unlawfully possessing a firearm with an obliterated serial number, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 922(g)(1) and 922(k).

Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Kevin A. Morabito stated that on March 3, 2000, Nesmith was found in possession of a Ruger 9mm caliber semi-automatic pistol, Model P95DC, five rounds of 9mm ammunition, and a Rossi 44SPL caliber revolver, Model M720, which had had the serial number obliterated, removed or altered. He had previously been convicted of a felony on August 21, 1996.

The conviction was the culmination of a Project Exile investigation on the part of the Rochester Violent Crimes Task Force, composed of law enforcement personnel from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms under the direction of Resident Agent in Charge Francis Christiano, the Rochester Police Department, Special Investigation Section, under the direction of Police Chief Robert Duffy, the United States Marshal's Service under the

direction of U.S. Marshal John P. McCaffrey, the Monroe County Sheriff's Office under the direction of Sheriff Andrew Meloni, New York State Police under the direction of Major Peter Lawrence, and the New York State Attorney General's Office under the direction of Deputy Chief Richard Soule.
